

March 15, 2017

To: Federal Communications Commission

From: Project Mutual Telephone Cooperative Association, Inc.

Re: Forbearance Notification
WC Docket No. 11-42 – Lifeline and Link Up Reform and Modernization

Project Mutual Telephone Cooperative Association, Inc. (PMT; SAC 472231) hereby notifies the FCC that it is availing itself of forbearance relief granted by the *Lifeline Modernization Order*¹ from the obligation to offer Lifeline-supported broadband Internet access service.

PMT is an eligible telecommunications carrier (ETC) that receives Alternative Connect America Cost Model (A-CAM) support in Idaho. The Cooperative elects forbearance relief for those census blocks in its study area that are not funded under A-CAM. The Cooperative does not receive high-cost support for those unfunded census blocks and is not subject to high-cost public interest broadband obligations in them. What follows is the information the Wireline Competition Bureau has requested in these notifications.²

1. *Carrier Name*: Project Mutual Telephone Cooperative Association, Inc.
2. *ETC Designation Information*
 - a. *ETC Designation Order*: Idaho Public Utilities Commission; In the Matter of the Idaho Telephone Association's Request for Eligible Telecommunications Carrier Designation on Behalf of Its Member Local Exchange Carriers; Case No. GNR-T-97-17; Order No. 27255; December 17, 1997.
 - b. *Designating Authority*: Idaho Public Utilities Commission
 - c. *Type of Designation*: High-cost support recipient (*i.e.*, not Lifeline-only)

¹ *Lifeline and Link Up Reform and Modernization et al.*, WC Docket No. 11-42 et al., Third Report and Order, Further Report and Order, and Order on Reconsideration, 31 FCC Rcd 3962 (2016) (*Lifeline Modernization Order*). In particular, the *Lifeline Modernization Order* forbore from requiring high-cost support recipients to offer Lifeline-supported broadband in areas where they are not receiving high-cost support or are not subject to high-cost public interest broadband obligations. *Id.*, 31 FCC Rcd 4074-75, paras. 309, 311, 312.

² *Wireline Competition Bureau Provides Guidance Regarding Filing Procedures for Eligible Telecommunications Carriers Seeking to Invoke Forbearance Granted by Lifeline Modernization Order*, WC Docket No. 11-42, Public Notice, 31 FCC Rcd 12672 (2016).

- d. *Date of ETC Designation:* December 17, 1997.
3. *Areas Where ETC Seeks Forbearance:* The Excel file that accompanies this notification contains a list of the census blocks, in numerical order by FIPS code, where PMT is availing itself of forbearance relief. The listed census blocks are all those within the Cooperative's ETC-designated service area that are not funded under A-CAM.
4. *Date and Reason for Change:* PMT received its first A-CAM support payment on February 28, 2017. Therefore, as of that date, the Cooperative no longer receives high-cost support for census blocks within its designated service area that are not funded under the model and is not subject to broadband public interest obligations in those blocks.
5. *Information on Areas Where Carrier Elects to Offer Broadband:* Notwithstanding the forbearance relief PMT is claiming for its census blocks that do not receive A-CAM support, the Cooperative still intends to offer Lifeline-supported broadband in those blocks to the extent qualifying service is available.

Please feel free to contact me at 208-434-7124 or rharder@pmt.coop if you have any questions or require additional information.

Sincerely,



Rick Harder
CFO/Treasurer